



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Michael J. Wiener et al.  
Serial No. 08/949,525  
Filing Date: Oct. 14, 1997  
Confirmation No.: 8206

Examiner: D. Meislahn  
Art Group: 2132  
Our file no. 10500.97.8271  
Docket No. ENT970827-1

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Technology Center 2100

**Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING UPDATED ENCRYPTION KEY PAIRS AND DIGITAL SIGNATURE KEY PAIRS IN A PUBLIC KEY SYSTEM**

Box RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Attn: Examiner Douglas J. Meislahn

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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on this date.

1/18/03  
Date:

Margaret Caruso  
Margaret Caruso

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Advisory Action dated November 26, 2002, please amend the above application to read as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please add new claim 21 as follows:

*R1.1b*  
*21.* A method for providing updated digital signature key pairs to a plurality of clients in a public key system comprising the steps of:

*G*  
*21*  
providing, by a multi-client manager unit and not by a client, selectable digital signature expiry data including at least public verification key expiry data, and selectable private signing key expiry data to a plurality of clients, that are selectable on a per client basis wherein the digital signature key pairs are not shared among users;